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STAR OF MYSORE

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MYSURU Monday 10th May 2021
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LOCKDOWN BEGINS

Mysuru, May 10 (RK&BCT)- To break the chain of COVID-19 transmission, a 14-day stricter lockdown — perhaps the harshest after the last year's nationwide lockdown — came into effect in Karnataka from 6 am today.

The tough restrictions will remain in force till 6 am on May 24. Notably, the State was already under 'Corona Curfew' since Apr. 27. But as the number of cases continued to rise, the B.S. Yediyurappa-led Government decided to extend the curfew.

Karnataka has been recording the highest number of cases after Maharashtra and is now the second worst-hit State in the country. Even as cases continue to spike, experts have said Bengaluru may see the second wave of COVID-19 start flattening only after May 17.

Karnataka recorded 47,930 fresh cases yesterday, a tally right behind Maharashtra, which is at 48,401. To date, Karnataka has reported over 19.3 lakh infections and 18,776 related fatalities. Of these, over 9.3 lakh cases and 6,191 deaths have taken place since Apr. 1 this year alone.

Traffic Police and Chamundi Commando Force making enquiries with motorists who ventured out during lockdown in city this morning. Picture right shows Police seizing vehicles of violators.

As the Day-1 of lockdown began, shops selling essential items opened in Mysuru at 6 am and Police personnel were seen baton charging violators and seizing their vehicles. The real enforcement began after 10 am when the deadline of shopping ended. By 10.30 am, the city wore a deserted look. Even milk booths were asked to close at 10 am as there was no point in opening them in the absence of buyers.

Except for medical, hospital and oxygen supplies, Government and private essential office services, door-to-door deliveries of goods by online aggregators, food parcels from hotels and restaurants, IT and ITES, telecommunication services and paramedical services, everything else was closed.

All vehicles, except essential services, were restricted and area-to-area movement was banned. People had to purchase essentials in their respective areas by walking up to the stores.

(See LOCKDOWN on page 6)

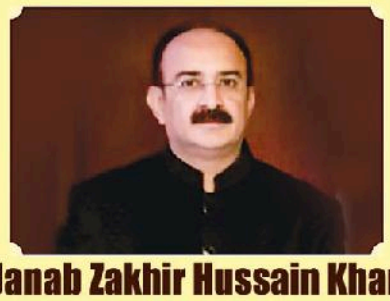
Jab for 18-44 years starts at 2 Centres

Youths, who had registered online, awaiting their turn to get vaccinated at Charaka Hospital on KRS Road.

Mysuru, May 10 (MTY&SSV)- The much-awaited vaccination of citizens in the age group of 18 to 44 years started around 12 noon in city today. The delay in launching this new vaccination drive was due to late arrival of vaccine stock from Bengaluru. The vaccines, which were supposed to reach here on Sunday evening, came past midnight. This hampered the beginning of vaccination at around 10 am.

(See JAB on page 6)

CONDOLENCE



Janab Zakhir Hussain Khan
Managing Director, National Marble & Granites and Hotel National Residency, Mysuru
09.05.2021
A Brother, Mentor, Guide, friend.
MAY ALMIGHTY ALLAH GRANT HIM HIGHEST RANK IN JANNAH.
P.K Yousuf Group, Mysuru

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 10th May 2021

COVID surge: 2-week complete lockdown comes into force in TN

Chennai, May 10 (UNI)-The two-week complete and total lockdown, with some relaxations came into force in Tamil Nadu from today morning in view of the surge in daily Corona cases.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, who assumed office on May 7 and held a review meeting with all the District Collectors and medical experts on the prevailing COVID pandemic, announced the total lockdown from 4 am today till 4 am on May 24 to flatten the curve.

In a bid to ensure that people stock enough essentials ahead of the lockdown, the State Government had allowed opening of all shops without any restrictions across the State from 6 am to 9 am on Saturday and Sunday.

As the lockdown came into force, all inter-district and intra-district transport services, including public and private buses, autos, call taxis, cabs were off the roads, except for essential travel like weddings, funerals, job interviews and hospitals on production of relevant documents.

All the State-owned TASMAC liquor shops remained closed from today for two weeks, prompting the tipplers to store enough stock as the sales crossed more than Rs. 400 crore across the State during the weekends.

While all shops except vegetables, grocery and provision stores and meat stalls, remain closed, non air-conditioned provision and grocery stores and meat stalls remained open till 12 noon with a maximum of 50 percent customers.

Except for those involved in food delivery, other e-commerce firms were not allowed to function, while hotels and restaurants are allowed to function for takeaway services only in the stipulated time.

Beauty parlours, salons and spas, besides all social, political, recreational, educational and cultural events are not allowed.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.' — Alfred Tennyson

In these precarious times when life is on the precipice and so precarious that anything might happen at any moment, the beleaguered mankind turns to God and resorts to fervent prayers. A handful of hardcore atheists may snigger at this. But years ago I remember reading, 'A prayer has nothing to do with theism or atheism. It's even beyond spirituality. A prayer, like universal morality, is non-theistic. It's a gesture of thankfulness, not necessarily directed towards anyone or any specific or esoteric object.' Persian Sufi poet Fariduddin Attar called a prayer: 'Nisdaa'boon khud-shafi' — self-cleansing soliloquy. One needs no object or even direction to pray. There's no God involved in a non-denominational and non-theistic prayer. Since we all associate prayers with cheap entreaties for mundane and materialistic gains, granted by someone up there in the seventh heaven, prayers have begun to be associated with outright begging and asking for alms and wishes from some imaginary power. This is not prayer. This is a travesty of a prayer. Prayer as a transaction is meaningless, but prayer as a communication with inner consciousness has depth. It's akin to auto-suggestion, goading one's spirit to rise above pettiness into the realm of knowledge.

Prayer is evincing gratitude for one's existence: 'Apne vajood ka mamnoon hoon; Shukriya kahta hoon, log dua samajhte hain' — I'm thankful to my own existence; I say thanks, which is often mistaken for a prayer.'

A thankless life is not worth living. It's a natural sense of gratitude that helps us live life with a certain degree of purpose and direction. Here comes the role of a prayer. It's a catalyst and an affirmation of our overall gratefulness that could be directed or addressed to none. A prayer is actually 'shabd-virahit, shabdaateet arghyam vadanti' — wordless or beyond words. A prayer is the simplest and also the easiest form of meditation and like the latter, it's also above God and religion. A silent prayer is far greater and powerful than the clamour of all faiths and un-faiths put together. — *Sumit Paul in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Missing woman found living on grass and moss

Utah: A 47-year-old woman, who went missing six months ago in a canyon in Utah, was recently found living in a small tent, surviving mostly on a diet of grass and moss.

The woman, whose name has not been released, was declared missing last November after her car and camping equipment were found in a parking lot near Spanish Fork Canyon, about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City. Utah County Sheriff's Office searched the area, but could not locate her and attempts to contact her relatives proved unsuccessful. In the end, authorities impounded the car and held her equipment, assuming that she had crossed into Colorado. Still, search and rescue teams continued to scour the area both on foot and from the air and last weekend they finally found her.

A volunteer group had brought in a drone to help with the operation, but when it crashed in the canyon the pilot and a police officer went out to find it. That's how they stumbled upon a tent.

AI-controlled shoes to help blind

Sydney: Austrian company Tec-Innovation recently unveiled smart shoes that use ultrasonic sensors to help people suffering from blindness detect obstacles up to four meters away.

Known as InnoMake, the smart shoe aims to become a modern alternative to the decades-old walking stick that millions of people around the world depend on to get around as safely as possible. The currently available model relies on sensors to detect obstacles and warns the wearer via vibration and an audible alert sounded on a Bluetooth-linked smartphone.

That sounds impressive enough, but the company is already working on a much more advanced version that incorporates cameras and artificial intelligence to not only detect obstacles but also their nature.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Staying Active through physical activity

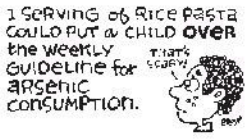
It is a known fact that routine physical activity is important for good health. Strong joint and bones can be maintained by slowly and gradually stretching a routine workout, like brisk walk and stretching exercises.

By Dr. Ravikiran - Consultant Orthopedics and Joint Replacement Surgeon

COLUMBIA ASIA

COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*



Because arsenic is found in the earth, the most common way that people are poisoned by arsenic is by way of contaminated soil or groundwater. The earth naturally contains varying levels of arsenic, but mining and agriculture practices can also raise arsenic levels.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAY 8	MAY 9
Day's Positive Cases	2,294	1,854
Total Positive Cases	96,893	98,747
Day's Discharges	2,484	2,667
Total Discharges	79,152	81,819
Day's Deaths	20	13
Total Deaths	1,314	1,327
Total Active Cases	16,427	15,601

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Boeing India to establish 200 oxygen beds hospital in Bengaluru

Bengaluru, May 10 (UNI) - Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa said that aerospace major Boeing India would set up a 200 oxygen beds hospital in the city.

In a letter to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, he said the sudden surge in the COVID-19 cases has led to an exponential demand for oxygen.

At present growth rate, the State may require 1,500 MT oxygen by May 15 based on the consumption norms of the Centre as against the allocation of 964 MT.

In this background, Boeing India has come forward to set up a 200 oxygenated bed hospital at the KPCL site in Yelahanka, where there is an assured oxygen supply from the KPCL gas plant. This will help lessen the load on existing oxygen supplies in the State, he said.

In reply, Sitharaman tweeted, thanking Boeing for coming forward to set up two 200 oxygenated bed hospitals in Bengaluru for COVID-19 cases and Kalaburagi to serve Bidar, Belagavi and Raichur.

REALLY...?

- ***The largest religious building in the world is Angkor Wat, a Hindu Temple in Cambodia built at the end of the 11th century.***
- ***Sikhism originated in the Holy city of Amritsar in Punjab. Famous for housing the Golden Temple, the city was founded in 1577.***
- ***Varanasi, also known as Benaras, was called "the Ancient City" when Lord Buddha visited it in 500 B.C., and is the oldest, continuously inhabited city in the world today.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Santa goes into a bar in New York...

The man on his right orders a drink, 'Johnnie Walker, single.'

The man on his left says, 'Jack Daniels, single.'

Santa says...

'Santa Singh, married !!'

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.41
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 103.15
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.98
1 Euro	= Rs. 89.24

VOICE OF THE READER

Kudos to COVID Warriors at District Hospital

Sir,

I would like to bring to readers' attention about the yeomen service rendered by the front-line COVID warriors at District Hospital on KRS Road.

On Apr. 16 (Friday) I rushed to this hospital as my RT-PCR report came positive. In spite of considerable crowd, I noticed the staff who were registering the COVID patients were quite calm and friendly. They registered me for the OPD admission and guided me to a hall. The head nurse and other nurses were quite helpful in guiding me with appropriate prescriptions and next steps.

Unfortunately, on Apr. 18 (Sunday), my family too had their COVID report positive. We were concerned a bit and called up a private hospital for medical advice. We were surprised to hear that being weekend, the consulting doctors were on leave and hence advised to visit next day (Monday).

To our pleasant surprise, when we visited the District Hospital on Sunday, all the medical staff were available and were working with same enthusiasm as any other day. They provided medical advice to my family too, with the same helpful attitude.

Later, we received multiple calls from the DC office daily, inquiring our health status. On May 1, all of us have recovered from this pandemic and are taking all necessary precaution to prevent any recurrence.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the COVID warriors at Mysuru District Hospital and the DC Office War Room for having helped us recover from this pandemic.

—Varadaraj

Mysuru
3.5.2021

Public behaviour at vaccination centre

Sir,

I was very disappointed by observing the behaviour of some of our fellow citizens during these unprecedented times. I went with my mother for her second dose of vaccine at the ESI Hospital on Friday. The vaccine was supposed to arrive and hence the token distribution was stopped.

But once the vaccine arrival was confirmed, token distribution started. Unfortunately, the server was slow and was taking time for registration. In the meanwhile, people started to throw tantrums.

Some of them wanted priority in the queue because they did not have breakfast while others wanted priority citing the reason that they are old and cannot stay there for long. Some others took the token and went away, came back late, demanding priority.

My opinion is that if one didn't have his/her breakfast, it is not the fault of the workers at the vaccination centre. If one is bringing an aged person for vaccination, why can't one come on their behalf early and wait?

I appeal to the public to behave at the vaccination centre and not throw any tantrums panicking the people around and the staff.

—G.D. Suraj

Mysuru
3.5.2021

Worthy suggestion

Sir,

Apropos the letter ***'Convert this Bus Stand building as COVID Seva Kendra'*** *(SOM* dated May 2) by Raghunath Sharma, it is indeed worth converting any un-used public building for a social cause, especially in the present situation when not only COVID-infected people run from one hospital to the other looking for bed and treatment but even the administration is finding difficulty in providing required infrastructure. Will the concerned give it a serious thought and initiate action?

—N. Devarajan

Nanjangud
3.5.2021

MUDA, Devaraj Urs Dev. Corpn.

Chairmen inspect COVID War Room

Mysuru, May 10 (RK&SD)- Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) Chairman H.V. Rajeev visited the COVID War Room housed at the new Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex in Siddarthanagar here on Saturday to have first-hand experience of its functioning.

Rajeev enquired the officers in-charge of the War Room about the number of oxygenated, ventilated and general beds as well as ICU beds available in Government and Private Hospitals in city. He also collected information about the number of calls they have been receiving per day and how the beds are being allotted to infected patients. Rajeev sought details about the facilities available for War Room staff members working in the day and night shifts and later addressed their concerns.

Speaking to reporters, he said, "As part of district administration's fight against the pandemic, COVID War Room has been set up to streamline hospital admissions. District In-charge Minister S.T. Somashekar has given the responsibility of managing the War Room to D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation Chairman R. Raghu and hospital bed management to myself. Both citizens and Corona patients are calling the **Helpline (0821-2424111)** with their queries. Recommendation will be made to Hospitals for admission depending upon the health condition of patients besides obtaining details of beds available in both Government and Private Hospitals."

"All those who have been tested positive would not need oxygenated beds. Only those who are symptomatic might require one, but of late, people are unnecessarily getting panicked and calling War Room for oxygenated beds. I would request all asymptomatic patients to isolate themselves at home for at least five days, follow their doctor's advice and take medications accordingly. Only if the patient has severe symptoms such as difficulty in breathing, doctors would advise for oxygenated bed or ventilator, which we would arrange here at the War Room," he added.

Conduct survey to detect individuals with COVID-like symptoms: Chamarajanagar DC

Chamarajanagar, May 10 - Chamarajanagar Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. M.R. Ravi has instructed the team comprising Health Department staff, ASHA and Anganwadi workers to conduct survey and trace all symptomatic individuals with cough, cold, sore throat and fever in rural areas of the district.

Presiding over a meeting at DC Office Auditorium here on Saturday with Health Department staff and Nodal Officers appointed to monitor the pandemic spread in the district, Dr. Ravi said, "According to reports, the infection is spreading at a faster rate in rural areas. We need to detect positive cases at the initial stage itself, which would help reduce the fatality. People with Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) are more likely to test positive for COVID-19."

"The team comprising Health Department staff, ASHA and Anganwadi workers would trace symptomatic persons in rural areas. All primary contacts should compulsorily undergo COVID test. In particular, we need to monitor senior citizens and persons with underlying co-morbid medical conditions. If 10 or more cases are detected in a particular area, we need to demark the area as containment zone. This would help stamp and isolate the infected persons as well as confine them in an effective way. All symptomatic visitors to the district should be tested and if tested positive should be admitted to COVID Care Centres or hospitals as per doctor's advice," he said.

ZP Chief Executive Officer Harshal Bhoyal also addressed the meeting. Medical College Dean Dr. Sanjeev, Nodal Officers including Deputy Conservator of Forest (DCF) Santosh Kumar, DCF Yedukondalu, District Surveillance Officer Dr. Nagaraju, RCH Officer Dr. Vishweshwariah, Dr. Mahadevu, Tahasildars Chidananda Guruswamy, Ravishankar, Nagaraju, K. Kunal, Jayaprakash, Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Umesh, Salem Husain, Srikanteraje Urs, Taluk Health Officers Dr. Srinivas, Dr. Ravindra, Dr. Manjunath and others were present.

NEWS BRIEFS

National Technology Day online talk

Marking National Technology Day, CSIR-CFTRI (Central Food Technological Research Institute) has organised an online lecture programme by former CFTRI Director Dr. V. Prakash on the topic 'Food Science for Food Technology' tomorrow (May 11) at 11 am. CSIR-CFTRI Director Dr. Sridevi A. Singh will preside. Logon to https://youtu.be/ZqsVrVmWxYA to participate in the programme.

Digital Lecture

As part of JSS Vidyapeetha's Jnana Varidhi Weekly Digital Lecture Series, Vice-President of NEL Tech, Bengaluru Dr. A.R. Upadhya will deliver a virtual talk on 'Bahyakashada Belavanige mattu Jeevanada Paatagalu' at 6 pm today (May 10). Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji will grace the occasion. The lecture can be heard by accessing the following links – Youtube — http://Youtube.com/c/JSSMahavidyapeethaonline or https://www.facebook.com/JSSMVP or http://jssonline.org

Appointed

Dr. R. Srinivas, an Anaesthetist serving at the District Hospital, Mysuru, has been appointed as District Community Service Commissioner of Scouts and Guides. Dr. Srinivas, who is an ex-servicemen, had previously served at Indian Navy Hospitals in Mumbai, Goa, Karwar, Kochi, Visakhapatnam and Odisha, according to Chief Scouts and Guides Commissioner M.N. Shadakshari.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Today	:	93.18 feet
Yesterday	:	93.24 feet
Inflow	:	129 cusecs
Outflow	:	419 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2258.67 feet
Inflow	:	507 cusecs
Outflow	:	725 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,820.02 feet
Inflow	:	104 cusecs
Outflow	:	80 cusecs

Homeless amid pandemic

Mysuru, May 10 (YDS&SD)- As the second wave of pandemic continues to wreak havoc in the district, the homeless and destitutes, who are one of the most vulnerable to infection, are in the lurch.

"I lost my both legs due to gangrene. Being unable to work, my family members kicked me out of my house. I didn't want to die, so I came to Mysuru to find a new life. I am dependant on others for my basic needs, but again, due to this pandemic, it is difficult to find food every day. If the situation continues the same, I may die of hunger any time," said Chinnaswamy who lives on the streets of Mysuru.

"Before COVID Curfew, I used to sleep outside a temple. Now, it is closed. If we sleep on footpath, Police personnel asks us to vacate the place, but sometimes, out of courtesy, they allow us to sleep. Once or twice in a day, some donors come here distribute food to us. Some days, we spend the whole day in hunger, quench our thirst with just water," he added.

Another homeless person Eranna said, "I have my own house and land in Tumkur. But I left my native due to some family dispute. Over the last one year, I have been selling peanuts to travellers in City Railway Station. Sometimes, I even visit rural areas to sell them. Ever since the curfew was imposed 15 days ago, I could not sell and hence sleeping on roadside. Now, I am totally dependent on donors for food."

Efforts are yet to be made to shelter those living on the streets and provide them with necessary facilities.

The district administration still has not taken any necessary step to rehabilitate these homeless and destitutes in the event of a prolonged lockdown.

"I would request the district administration to set up a rehabilitation centre for us. It would greatly help us and save our lives," Eranna added.

NPS employees appeal Govt. to use contribution for tackling COVID

Mysuru, May 10 (SPN&DM)- With the deadly COVID-19 contagion continuing its rampage across the country, the State NPS (Non Pension Scheme) employees have appealed the Government to use their contribution totalling a whopping Rs. 12,500 crore for tackling the pandemic.

In a letter to Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, Karnataka State NPS Employees Association President Shantaram said that it is the social responsibility of the Government to vaccinate people and treat COVID patients for free. As such, the State Government should join hands with NPS Trust for withdrawing the contribution money invested in NSDL (National Securities Depository Limited) and use it for managing COVID crisis, he said.

Continuing, Shantaram said that the Government should also look at the option of transferring this money from NPS to GPF (General Provisional Fund) in future.

Maintaining that as per the directions of Pension Fund Regulatory Authority, the contribution of the employees and the Government, amounting to Rs. 12,500 crore has been credited at NSDL, he reiterated that the Government can use this money for managing COIVD crisis.

Former MLA distributes food packets to migrant workers

Mysuru, May 10 (RKB&SD)- Former MLA M.K. Somashekar distributed food packets to returning migrant workers and the public at City Railway Station yesterday.

As the news of the lockdown spread through social media, migrant workers employed in different parts of the district have started leaving the city fearing larger restrictions.

They thronged the Railway Station yesterday to return to their native places including Bihar and Rajasthan as well as far off places like Sollapur and Khanapur.

Hundreds of migrant workers were seen at the City Railway Station yesterday, waiting for their train and carrying heavy luggage and water bottles.

The team headed by former MLA Somashekar, minority community leader Farooq, City Congress Vice-President Rajaram and others distributed food packets and water bottles to migrant workers.

Leaders Rohit, Gunashekar and others were also present.

Hoteliers want total shut down

Mysuru, May 10(MK&DM)- The Mysuru Hotel Owners Association has urged the Government to order a complete shut down of Hotel industry in the wake of rising COVID cases.

Narayanagowda

In a press release, Association President C. Narayanagowda expressed concern over continuous surge of the deadly virus. Highlighting that home delivery staff of food suppliers are always exposed to the risk of catching the virus due to widespread travel, he said that under such circumstances it is better to completely shut down the Hotel industry.

Maintaining that hotels are indeed suffering losses due to parcel and takeaway services, Naryanagowda said that though the Government may have allowed parcel services taking into consideration food supplies to patients and their caretakers, at the same time it should take note of the health and safety of home delivery staff and other attendants.

Contending that a complete shutdown of the Hotel industry is key to tackling the deadly pandemic, he said that the Government must order a total ban on food parcel services too in order to check the spread of the virus.

Green grass and horse gram distributed to tongawallas

Members of Karnataka Rajya Hindulida Vargagala Jagruta Vedike and Bharatiya Dalita Sahitya Academy distributed green grass and horse gram to tongawallas of Mysuru yesterday. Vedike State President K.S. Shivaram, leaders M. Lokeshkumar, Rohit of Manjula Sounds, R.K. Ravi and Vinod Raj were present.

Mysuru, May 10- Members of Karnataka Rajya Hindulida Vargagala Jagruta Vedike and Bharatiya Dalita Sahitya Academy distributed green grass and horse gram to tonga owners in city yesterday.

Vedike members visited tonga stands located in Agrahara Circle and Kukkarahalli Lake yesterday morning and distributed horse feed to tonga owners.

Speaking to reporters, Vedike State President K.S. Shivaram said, "We will distribute green grass and horse gram to these poor animals thrice a week. Tonga owners are out of business from the last two weeks due to COVID Curfew. Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) should come to the rescue of these poor people. I would request MCC Commissioner to help the tonga owners feed their animals.

Vedike State President K.S. Shivaram, leaders M. Lokeshkumar, Rohit of Manjula Sounds, R.K. Ravi and Vinod Raj were present.

Deputy Mayor Anwar Baig launches sanitisation drive at Agrahara

Deputy Mayor Anwar Baig launching off the sanitisation drive in Ward number 51 of Agrahara in city yesterday. All major roads in Ward number 51 of Agrahara will be sanitised using high-pressure jetting machine to prevent transmission of the deadly Coronavirus. MLA S.A. Ramdas, Corporator B.V. Manjunath, MCC Health Officer Dr. Nagaraj and others were present.

Private Schools come forward to convert schools as COVID Care Centres

Bengaluru, May 10 (UNI)- Following the surge in Covid-19 cases, Private School Managements have come forward to convert their buildings into Covid care Centres (CCCs).

Among the schools providing the facility are Canadian International School and Rashtrotthana Vidya Kendra, which have converted their classrooms and boarding blocks to CCCs.

Rashtrotthana has provided 400 beds for people needing general care, while the Canadian International is setting up 120 beds with oxygen facilities.

The Canadian International has joined hands with Entrepreneurs' Organisation (EO), Bangalore Chapter, to set up 120-bed facility, which would come in handy as the city is scrambling for oxygen facilities to help mounting Covid cases.

The school authorities said the facility will not cater to patients needing critical care, but those in dire need of oxygen. Their medical partner Cytecare Cancer Hospital will operate the facility end-to-end. The facility will be ready by mid-May.

In the first phase, the school intends to equip around 50 beds in the shortest possible time to meet the existing demand, while in the second phase it plans to scale up the facility to 120 beds.

Two oxygen manufacturing plants to come up in Mandya district

Mandya, May 10 (Mohan Raj & SSV)- There is a serious thinking to manufacture oxygen in the district as the present supply of liquid medical oxygen is not able to meet the current demand, said District In-charge Minister K.C. Narayanagowda.

Speaking to reporters here on Saturday, he said that the matter has been discussed with Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji of Adichunchanagiri Mutt and also regarding the supply of machinery required to manufacture oxygen from Coimbatore. The two plants will come up in Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS) in Mandya City and Malavalli taluk. Legislators have been requested to contribute from their area development fund towards this cause.

The Minister said the current Corona crisis has brought untold misery to the district and the situation was yet to come under control. The infection has increased here as persons from this district who got infected in Bengaluru returned due to lack of beds in the State capital. Not taking suitable precautions has resulted in the outbreak of the pandemic.

He said the State Government was providing all kinds of infrastructure to the district. At present, oxygen was supplied in 400 jumbo cylinders. The district was supposed to get 7 KL oxygen from Ballari daily but only 10 KL is being supplied once in two days. The remaining 4 KL was being supplied to Mysuru District.

The Minister said that the district has 306 oxygenated beds and 12 additional beds have been added. The oxygenated bed was allotted once a patient is discharged. Besides, there are 50-60 ventilator beds in Mandya. There are 30 ventilator beds in Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences and other ventilator beds have been provided in BGS Hospital in Nagamangala among other hospitals. Hitherto, the district needed 850 metric tonnes of oxygen, but now the demand has touched 2,000 metric tonnes. But still it was not sufficient to provide oxygen to all the needy patients.

Congress urges CM to announce package for daily workers

Bengaluru, May 10 (UNI)- Leader of the Opposition Siddharamaiah on Sunday urged Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa to announce a package for daily wage workers during the 15-day lockdown in the State.

In a letter to Yediyurappa, the former CM urged for providing a ration of 10 kg of rice along with cooking oil. With compensation of Rs. 10,000 for each BPL family, then Rs. 6,000 per month.

He pointed out that during lockdown norms, banks, ATMs, hospitals opened but using vehicles was banned and even hotel allowed parcels, but no vehicle moment, is it a Tuglak Government, he questioned.

Siddharamaiah asked how villagers could bring essentials by walking 3 to 4 km and who would be held responsible if anything happens to them. This government has no common sense while issuing the orders, he said.

He termed the ruling BJP Government as more deadly than the virus infection and the lockdown imposed by them and guidelines issued was in total confusion.

"We need to utilise the oxygen produced in us. District oxygen units should be installed. Oxygen cylinder sales were cut short and the homeowners demanded that they get oxygen," he pointed out.

T.K. Layout youths distribute food packs to destitutes and elderly people

Mysuru, May 10- T.K. Layout youths distributed food packets and water bottles to destitutes and elderly homeless persons who are living on the streets in different parts of the city yesterday.

Speaking to reporters, team member Balaji said, "These homeless persons are starving as most of the restaurants and eateries in city have remained closed due to COVID Curfew. We have been collecting donations from the community and making necessary arrangements to prepare food. Weekly once, on every Sunday, our team has been distributing food packets and water bottles to these persons."

Volunteers Nethra, Praveen and others were present.

Lockdown begins

The Albert Victor Road flanked by Dr. Raj Kumar Park (left) and Dr. Vishnuvardhan Park wore a deserted look this morning following the lockdown.

(Continued from page 1)

Some people were found carrying heavy bags of rice and vegetables. The Police had to swing lathis at people in Hebbal, Ramakrishnanagar, K.G. Koppal and some areas of Kuvempunagar to restrain youths from needless movement on their two-wheelers.

Long walk for food

The worst affected starting from the first day of the lockdown were migrants, daily wage workers and labourers who were seen gathering at various street corners near K.R. Hospital, Bus Stands, City Railway Station, Gandhi Square, Makkaji Chowk, Akashvani Circle and K.R. Circle waiting for donors to distribute food. They had to walk from places as far as Hebbal to eat a meal.

Like last year where there were hundreds of donors and volunteers who cooked and supplied free food, this year, there are only a handful of donors who are supplying limited quantities of food to the hungry. Without jobs at hand and limited food supply, a big question mark hangs over them to survive hunger pangs daily.

Police in full force

The City Police were on the roads in full force and leading the patrolling, surveillance and road block teams were City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, Deputy Commissioners of Police Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda and Geetha Prasanna. They were personally monitoring the situation. Apart from the regular Police teams, personnel from Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP) were also deployed.

Dr. Chandragupta urged people to strictly abide by the guidelines and warned of stringent action against violators. "I urge people to follow the lockdown guidelines more strictly. We can only be successful in our fight against COVID-19 if we work together," he said.

In order to enforce the COVID-appropriate behaviours, the Government has authorised civic agencies and local authorities to impose a fine of Rs. 250 in Municipal Corporation areas and Rs. 100 in other areas for violation of COVID protocols. For the enforcement of social distancing measures, the Police are authorised to book the violators under various sections of law.

City Top Cop issues instructions to public

Mysuru, May 10 (KS)- With the State Government imposing COVID lockdown from today (May 10) till May 24 to control the rapid spread of COVID-19 second wave, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta has issued the following instructions to be strictly followed by the public.

Public are allowed to purchase groceries, fruits, vegetables and other essentials from 6 am to 10 am. Residents should make purchases from shops close to their homes and should not take vehicles of any type but walk to the shops instead. In case anyone is found using their vehicle, vehicles would be seized by the Police. Except for goods vehicle, no other vehicles should be used failing which action would be taken against vehicle owners.

Only one member of a family should go to make purchases during the stipulated time (6 am to 10 am). Travelling from one part of the city to another to make purchases is banned.

Police personnel are instructed to check the residential proof of travellers and seek explanation from those found travelling during lockdown hours, according to a press release from the City Police Commissioner.

Jab for 18-44 years starts

(Continued from page 1)

In city, vaccination for this age group has been arranged at District Hospital and Charaka Hospital, opposite PKTB Hospital on KRS Road. In Taluks, it is held in all Taluk General Hospitals. The dispatch of the vaccine stock to all Taluks took place this morning.

Good response

There was good response of citizens of this age group at both vaccination sites. There was serpentine queues near the vaccination sites. Since there was no on-the-spot registration, those who had registered their names online were present at the location. The Mysuru District has been allotted 8,500 doses of both Covishield and Covaxin vaccines from the State Government which had directly purchased them from the companies concerned, and providing them to citizens free of cost.

Staff shortage

Shortage of staff was crippling vaccination for this segment of population. There was a separate login for this category of population in CoWIN portal. The staff had a tough time as they had to login in four portals; for 18-plus beneficiaries, for second dose of 45 years plus population, for Covishield and another for Covaxin takers.

The server was also very slow due to more number of people in the age group of 18 to 44 years registering their names for the much-needed vaccine.

The existing staff was re-shuffled for this purpose. So far, the Government has not given permission to hold this drive in sub-centres (Private Hospitals).

Second dose

Dr. L. Ravi, Reproduction and Child Health Officer and Nodal Officer for COVID-19 vaccination in Government Hospitals, told *SOM* that the fresh stock of 14,500 doses of both vaccines arrived yesterday to be given as second dose for 45 years plus beneficiaries in the district.

The stock had almost ended and the vaccination of this category of population would have been stopped if the Government of India had not released the stock. The vaccination has been going on in all Government facilities and select Private Hospitals. This stock was sufficient to vaccinate people for the next 8-10 days, he added.

He said National Health Mission Officers have been given clear instructions that the vaccines released to district must be used only as second dose for 45 years plus beneficiaries, and it must not be diverted. The staff was maintaining two separate registers to enter the names of beneficiaries.

Token system

Token system has been introduced at both the Vaccination Centres to avoid crowding of people. Every day, only 150 persons are vaccinated at each site and only that much of tokens are issued, that too only for pre-registered and first-come-first-serve basis. A shamiana was put up outside the Charaka Hospital to accommodate beneficiaries.

Following total lockdown for the next two weeks starting from today, the Police allowed those vaccine taking persons after they showed the SMS containing details of vaccination site, date and time.

District Minister and MP inspect oxygen unit in Hebbal

Mysuru, May 10 (RKB&SD)- District In-charge Minister S.T. Somashekar and MP Pratap Simha visited Padaki Air Products located at Hebbal Industrial area in city this morning and took stock of the situation relating to oxygen supply and availability in the district.

Padaki Air Products is one of the leading supplier of industrial and medical oxygen in city, supplying their products to Mandya and Chamarajanagar other than Mysuru district.

Both Somashekar and Pratap Simha held discussions with Padaki Air Products Proprietor Anil Padaki about the current production capacity in their unit.

Later, speaking to reporters, MP Pratap Simha said, "We have already received our quota of oxygen supplies, but 36 KL is just not enough to meet the demands. District Minister Somashekar has already discussed the situation with both Chief Minister B.S. Yedi-

yurappa and Health Minister Sudhakar who have promised to increase our quota. We had earlier received 16 KL of oxygen supply from Ballari, but KR Hospital itself needed considerable amount of oxygen. We are expecting one more batch of oxygen to reach Mysuru today. We will also be monitoring oxygen needs in all Government and Private Hospitals with 30 plus beds and accordingly allot oxygen cylinders based on their demand."

Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) Chairman H.V. Rajeev, D. Devaraj Urs Development Corporation Chairman R. Raghu, Nanjangud MLA B. Harshvardhan, Jungle Lodges Chairperson M. Appanna and Health Department officials were present during the visit.

KPTCL agrees to bear 75% of treatment cost

Mysuru, May 10 (SPN&DM)- Considering COVID -19 as a deadly epidemic disease, the KPTCL (Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited) has agreed to bear 75 percent of the expenses incurred for the treatment of its employees who have contracted the deadly contagion. It has also announced that measures will be taken for quick reimbursement of medical bills submitted after treatment.

JSS Hospital to give 300 more beds to Govt.

Mysuru, May 10 (PM&DM)- Continuing his efforts for augmentation of Government beds in Private Hospitals, District Minister S.T. Somashekar visited Suttur Mutt at the foot of Chamundi Hill this morning and held discussions with Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji on allocation of more beds to the Government at JSS Hospital.

Later, speaking to press-persons, Somashekar said that the district administration had appealed JSS Hospital for letting out a total of 417 beds to the Government to tackle the deadly COVID pandemic, out of which 100 have already been given, with a considerable number of them being oxygenated beds. Maintaining that Swamiji has agreed to give 317 more beds, Somashekar lauded the efforts of the Hospital for treatment of COVID affected. Pointing out that the JSS Hospital is getting an oxygen plant from Gujarat shortly, the Minister said that the Government will extend all help in the setting up of Oxygen Plant at the earliest, for which Union Ministers from the state Pralhad Joshi and D. V. Sadananda Gowda will be appealed to follow up. Asserting that a good number of oxygenated beds will become available at JSS Hospital once the plant is set up, the Minister recalled the co-operation extended by the Seer and JSS Hospital when the pandemic first broke out last year.

Replying to a question on oxygen quota, Somashekar said the Government is working out the quota for each district which will be known very shortly. All districts will get oxygen supplies based on this quota, he added.

Noting that Mysuru has five Oxygen re-filling plants, MP Pratap Simha said that he is continuously monitoring oxygen availability and delivery in the district on a regular basis. Maintaining that the district administration had collectively sought 2,000 beds from Private Hospitals, the MP said that however, Private Hospitals have given only about 700 beds so far. Expressing disappointment over the attitude of Private hospitals, Simha said that the Government is mulling appointing an administrative officer to all private hospitals in the district having more than 30 beds in order to get the desired number of beds for COVID treatment.

Stating that Mysuru district currently needs 20 KL of oxygen, he said that the district has got 18 KL, out of which 11 KL will be delivered to K.R. Hospital and the rest will be distributed among other Government and Private Hospitals depending upon their requirement. Contending that most private Hospitals are demanding oxygen at the last hour, which has become a problem for the authorities, the MP asked private Hospitals to make an assessment of their oxygen requirements much earlier as this will help a lot in addressing oxygen issue. Asserting that the JSS Hospital has been following all SOPs in COVID treatment, Suttur Seer said that the district administration has appealed for more beds and the JSS Hospital will give 317 beds with oxygen in phases once the plant is set up.

MLA L. Nagendra, D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation Chairman Raghu Kautilya, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, JSS Mahavidyapeetha Executive Secretary Dr. C. G. Betsurmath, Dr. B. Suresh, Pro-Chancellor of JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS-AHER) and others were present.

Hand-stamping of all visitors resumes in Kodagu

Mysuru, May 10 (Akshay &BCT)- Like in the first wave of COVID-19, the Kodagu District Administration has resumed stamping the hands of all those who are entering the district from various check-posts with indelible ink.

This comes in the wake of Kodagu — that lacks even medium-scale medical infrastructure — witnessing on an average of more than 600 COVID-positive cases every day. Also, identifying the infection pattern, the District authorities have realised that the killer virus is primarily spread by people who are arriving in the district in hordes following the lockdown announcement.

All the travellers from other bordering districts — Mysuru, Hassan, Mangaluru and Kerala — through Anechowkur Gate near Hunsur, Koppa Gate near Kushalnagar, Kodlipet Gate near Somwarpet, Sampaje Gate near Madikeri, Kutta Gate (from Tholpetty) and Karike check-post near Bhagamandala are being hand-stamped and they are being told to be in home-quarantine for 14 days.

"HOME QUARANTINED," reads the hand stamp, along with the date it was given to determine when their 14-day isolation ends. Before they enter the check-posts, their addresses, phone numbers, Gram Panchayat jurisdiction, purpose of visit is recorded and the same is conveyed to the respective Gram Panchayats so that the home isolated visitors are constantly monitored.

The process of hand-stamping began in Kodagu on May 6 and the daily list is updated to the respective Panchayat Development Officer.

Health officials said only those with negative certificates are allowed from Kerala. As a result, the movement of goods vehicles between the two States has come down drastically. Virajpet Tahsildar Yoganand said that with the rise in COVID cases, the surveillance has been strengthened.

As many as 12 personnel from the Revenue, Health, Police and Forest Departments are working in shifts at Makutta check-post. CCTV cameras have been installed at the check-posts, he added.

All the vehicles are being checked at the Hipligate check-post on the Kodagu-Hassan border. Check-posts have been set up at Shanthapura and Kodlipet to check the vehicles from Hassan entering the district. Barricades have been placed near the check-posts. These check-posts operate round-the-clock.

200-bed COVID Care Centre

at K.R. Nagar to become functional in a week

K.R. Nagar, May 10- As promised by K.R. Nagar JD(S) MLA S.R. Mahesh, a 200-bed COVID Care Centre (CCC) will start functioning at K.R. Nagar in a week.

Announcing this at a press meet at Saligrama in the taluk on Sunday, senior JD(S) leader M.T. Kumar said that the COVID Care Centre will be managed by MLA S.R. Mahesh out of his own funds. Pointing out that former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy will inaugurate this facility, Kumar said that this CCC has been opened at a cost of Rs. 5 crore.

Noting that three doctors who are paid a monthly salary of Rs.1 lakh each, five nurses and five D Group staff have been appointed to take care of the CCC, he said that the facility has 10 ventilators.

Appealing the Government to extend support for the CCC, Kumar urged the Government to provide 100 ventilators for the facility.

Maintaining that Mahesh has no personal animosity towards Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri, he said that the MLAs tirade against the DC is only for exerting her to be more responsive to the plight of people. Stating that the DC can visit the CCC and extend all Governmental help, Kumar said that officials of the taluk have been working round the clock for tackling the spread of the virus.

Expressing disappointment over the failure of Mandya MP Sumalatha Ambareesh's visit to K.R. Nagar, even though the taluk was reeling under the deadly pandemic, Kumar alleged that the MP had failed to console the families of COVID dead. Accusing the MP of failing to discharge her duties in this hour of crisis, Kumar observed that every elected representative should be grateful to the voters.

K.R. Nagar taluk JD(S) President Chandrashekar, leaders Kumar, Sudha and others were present.

Vaastu
Feng Shui
& Bio-Energetics

By **S.B.S Surendra**, Accredited Master Feng Shui Consultant

Invoking opportunities

In the practice of Feng Shui, your first impressions as you enter a home or room is very important. By crossing a threshold you enter a new environment or another world. You experience particular qualities, moods, and presences, both visible and invisible, that conditions our homes and workplaces and influences our lives.

Feng Shui addresses almost the entire spectrum of human aspiration. The practice operates at various levels. It can be highly personalised when practiced according to specific compass school formulas, or it can be broad based and generalised. In the ancient days the method involves interpretation of the terrain, contours, shapes, topography, elevation, rivers, and waterways, while compass Feng Shui offers recommendations in terms of compass directions.

Feng Shui teaches us that everything is energy, and we are in a constant energy exchange with everything around us. Thus, it is very important to create a Feng Shui home that has a happy and healthy energy. It has a variety of tips for a happy Feng Shui home, all based on the fact that if you live in a healthy and happy Feng Shui home, your own energy will inevitably become healthy and happy !

Regardless of the size, shape and décor of a place one can always feel the energy of the space as you walk in and gives you an indication of the energy existing there. The décor feel, orientation and layout of your home, garden or business can have a major impact on your career, personal relationships, health and wealth.

When the energy of the building matches with the energy of the occupants, it creates a sense of security and confidence. Our body responds and contains energy or "chi" that is sensitive to our surroundings. Likewise, a building's form, structure and interior layout reflect the energies that it embodies.

Look into the structural details, entrances; floor levels window ratios, door ratios and the environment too. Quite often small changes in orientations of furniture create an environment of "clarity and certainty". Furniture or decorations when "unaligned" or "unordered", results in giving rise to a feeling of "disorientation" or "spaced out" hence organising the layout is quite critical to derive positive benefits through Feng Shui.

Ensure that you can activate few things in your home to usher in prosperity and any of the following simple tips may be beneficial.

• Letting wind stream through your home is an excellent way to purify your environment and gain control over your state of mind and pushing out stagnation and uplift overwhelming emotions.

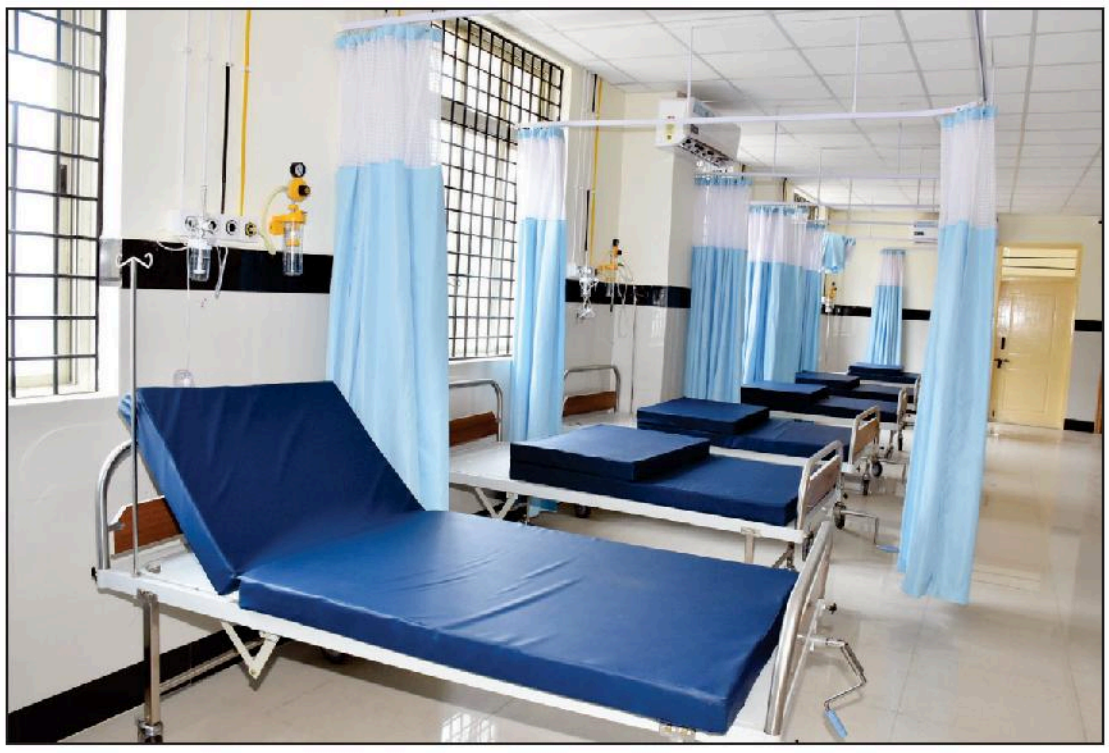
• Activate light either natural or thorough electricity. Light also activates and enhances chi; hence if there is less sunlight coming into your home, activate bright lights in the corner to shine towards the roof to lift up the spirits.

• A image of high flying eagle at North of living can aid in career growth, jobs and promotion.

[fengshui@fengshuiserver.com]

The big blame game is on

But can one ramp up ICU beds from 10,000 to 10,00,000 in 10 months?



By Vishwaprasad Alva

Vishwaprasad Alva

Seventy-four years since independence and where are we in healthcare coverage? Not many of us know that in the last 7 decades the nation has built less than 20,000 ICU beds in the whole country. In March 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, India had less than 12,000 working ICU ventilators.

In the last 74 years, the capacity built covers less than 30 percent of the Indian population with quality healthcare in both private and public sectors put together. In the last 74 years, we could establish only a few thousands of intensivists, cardiologists, oncosurgeons, neuro-surgeons, qualified technicians and critical medical skills. Is it humanly possible to set up 12,00,000 ICU beds in a few months to manage the Chinese virus?

During the first wave, we had the NITI Aayog, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of External Affairs leading the medical infrastructure programmes from the front on a war-footing. Having daily meetings with the Public Sector Units, Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO), the private sector and delivered nothing short of a miracle.

Did anyone compliment Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his team then?

We had news channels, the opposition screaming nonstop about centralisation and to respect the federal structure, health being a State subject. As the first wave showed signs of waning, the Centre wound up the Task Force, empowered the States and kept the States engaged in regular discussions, cleared infrastructure projects with funding and repeatedly cautioned about the second wave.

Yet we were caught unprepared by the second wave.

Now the big blame game is on. When States took control and failed, it is still the Centre that is at fault. How just is this? There is a limit to what the PM's chair can do whoever occupies it, Modi or Rahul Gandhi, Mamata Banerjee or the Yadavs, Deve Gowdas or the Thackerays, Stalins, Lenins or the CPM, Naidus, Reddys or the Kejriwals.

For the 1,000 percent growth to happen in the healthcare sector in a few months we need a sustainable Return of Investment (ROI) for private hospitals and we need large funds and staff for the Government to set up hospitals. No Government can train and add lakhs of doctors in months.

Also, private hospitals will not put up large projects just in anticipation of the pandemic.

For a nation that doesn't like to pay taxes, for people who will buy things without bills to avoid GST, for businessmen who invent all tricks to fool the system, for people who trade outside the banking system to avoid Income Tax and for the nation that runs on a parallel black economy, it's a tough or a rather daunting task to accomplish.

Politicians in most States and in the Government of Karnataka in particular were busy fighting for Ministries, fighting for positions all through the year and had no time for governance. Now the PM has to take the responsibility for the incompetence and the never-ending greed of this bunch of corrupt people in own party.

Politicians did nothing except visit Government Hospitals, inaugurate the non-existing equipment, pose for photos and randomly abuse and shout at the doctors for cheap publicity without realising that they are primarily responsible to equip the hospitals. The doctor's job is to practice medicine.

I just don't understand why the Government is summoning qualified doctors to non-stop meetings every other day while they can do best in taking care of patients.

Let's stop the blame game. The best we can do now as individuals, local bodies, communities, Mutts, Seers, Churches, Madrasas, religious and caste associations, corporates and businesses is to spread awareness, help prevent the spread within our own communities and neighbourhood, treat people at early stage and avoid clogging of hospitals with untreated and serious cases. It's time for introspection and serving our surroundings, not politicking.

[The author is Founder and Managing Director, Skanray Technologies, Mysuru]

Social distancing goes for a toss in Mandya

Mandya, May 10 - Social distancing norms to check the spread of COVID-19 are going for a toss with people crowding and jostling against each other to buy essential commodities such as groceries and meat in city yesterday.

As per the protocol, essential services such as vegetable, grocery and meat shops are allowed to function between 6 to 10 am. Most of the shops in city remained open even after 10 am and the crowd were busy purchasing essential commodities. Despite clarification that essential services will be exempted, panic buying continued at all major market places.

Serpentine queues were witnessed in front of meat stalls in all extensions as it was Sunday. Though the number of positive cases and casualties are increasing by the day, Mandya residents moved around the city as if everything was normal. The metal barricades put on the main roads and important circles were of no use as they could not restrict unnecessary movement of people.

Large crowd was seen at all major roads of city including Mandya vegetable market, V.V. Road, R.P. Road, Hosahalli Circle and Gutthal Road. These crowds, with barely any mask and no social distancing can prove to be super-spreaders. In fact, crowds, in their enthusiasm to purchase essentials, are tending to forget that the virus is lurking amidst them.

One killed, more than 10 injured as vehicle falls into gorge

Hanur, May 10 (Somu&KS)- One person was killed while more than 10 suffered serious injuries, when the vehicle in which they were proceeding to Indi Basappa Temple near Tulasi Keri on Male Mahadeshwara Hills (MM Hills), fell into a gorge yesterday.

While the deceased has been identified as Veeranna Gowda (85) of Mahadeshwara Hills, those injured are 50-year-old Kempegowda, 70-year-old Madatambadi, 52-year-old Madaiah, 75-year-old Jade Madatambadi, 55-year-old Huchaiah, 40-year-old Naga, 37-year-old Puttaswamy, 66-year-old Madaiah, 23-year-old Mahesh, 42-year-old Shanthamma and 33-year-old Girijamma.

They were travelling in a Trax Toofan vehicle yesterday, when the driver lost control of the vehicle while negotiating the fourth curve, resulting in the vehicle falling into the gorge. Passersby, who saw the mishap, informed MM Hills Police.

Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) Abdul Baig and Chikkakalegowda along with the staff, who rushed to the spot, summoned an ambulance and Kowdalli Health Centre staff, who arrived in the ambulance, provided first-aid and shifted the injured to Mettur Taluk Government Hospital in Tamil Nadu for further treatment. A case has been registered at Male Mahadeshwara Hills Police Station.

Former Minister

K.B. Shanappa passes away

Kalaburagi, May 10 - Former Minister and Rajya Sabha member **K.B. Shanappa** (79), passed away at a hospital in Kalaburagi following brief illness yesterday.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters.

Hailing from Ravoor village in Chittapur taluk of the district, Shanappa was an influential Dalit leader in Kalaburagi. The deceased who was a labour leader of the ACC Cement factory in Wadi made it to the Assembly twice on CPI from then Shahabad Assembly Constituency.

He was the Excise Minister in late J.H. Patel's Cabinet. Shanappa, who joined the BJP, was later made a Rajya Sabha member and was nominated to the State Legislative Council. He joined the Congress in 2018 ahead of the Lok Sabha polls.

Obituary

Akhtar Banu

Mysuru, May 10 - Akhtar Banu (84), a resident of Udayagiri, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind son Dr. Abdul Ravoof, President of Muslim Co-Operative Bank on New Sayyaji Rao Road, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza and burial took place at the Muslim Burial Grounds today, according to family sources.

Alhaj Khizer Mahmood

Alhaj Khizer Mahmood (85), retired Headmaster of Farooqia Boys High School, former Director of Muslim Co-operative Bank and a resident of Udayagiri, near Madeena Masjid, passes away yesterday morning at his residence in city.

He leaves behind his wife, four sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza and burial took place yesterday after Zohar prayers at the Muslim Burial Grounds near Tipu Circle, according to sources.

L. Rajanna

L. Rajanna (61), former MUDA Member and a resident of Lalithadripura, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind two sons including Zoo Authority of Karnataka Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the family's farm land at Lalithadripura this morning, according to family sources.

C.U. Gangamma

Chendrimada U. Gangamma (86), wife of late C.A. Uthappa, passed away at her son's residence in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage in city yesterday.

She leaves behind son C.U. Chittiappa, daughters-in-law and a host of relatives and friends. Her other two sons had pre-deceased her a few years back.

Last rites were performed at Chirashanthidhama in Gokulam yesterday afternoon, according to family sources.

Rajamma

Rajamma (89), wife of late Venkatashamaiah and a resident of Gokulam 3rd Stage, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill yesterday evening, according to family sources.

Jayakumar

Jayakumar (63), a retired Assistant Sub-Inspector, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, three sons, one daughter, son-in-law and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Chirashanthidhama in Gokulam yesterday evening, according to family sources.

Manjunath

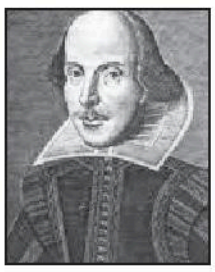
Manjunath (52), a resident of Subash Nagar in Hebbal 1st Stage, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Jodi Tenginamara Burial Grounds at Bannimantap, according to family sources.

WORD OF THE DAY

Versal



Pronunciation: vur-suhl.
Meaning: Universal or whole.
Origin: The adjective versal, "universal; whole," is a colloquial shortening of universal. But versal achieved respectability because of its first appearance, in Romeo and Juliet (written about 1591–96), when the Nurse tells Romeo that whenever she tells Juliet that Count Paris wants to marry Juliet, Juliet "lookes as pale as any clout [rag, dishrag] in the versall world."
Example: I anger her sometimes, and tell her that Paris is the properer man, but Ile warrant you, when I say so, shee lookes as pale as any clout in the versall world. —William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet, 1599

THE ODD WORD

Vacatur

Annulment.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Under the weather

Meaning: The term under the weather is an English phrase that means someone is feeling sick or sad.
Origin: When someone is feeling sick or sad, they might describe themselves as being "under the weather." Where did this common phrase come from? Its origin may have to do with sailing. Commenting on the origins of this phrase, the website The Phrase Finder mentions that in older times, when a sailor was feeling seasick, he would be sent below deck so he could get away from being under the harsh weather.
According to another source, a book called Salty Dog Talk: The Nautical Origins of Everyday Expressions by Bill Beavis (Author) and Michael Howorth (Author), this phrase originally meant to feel seasick. It also mentions:
"The term is correctly 'under the weather bow' which is a gloomy prospect; the weather bow is the side upon which all the rotten weather is blowing."

QUOTE BOX

If life were predictable it would cease to be life, and be without flavour.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Top tip.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

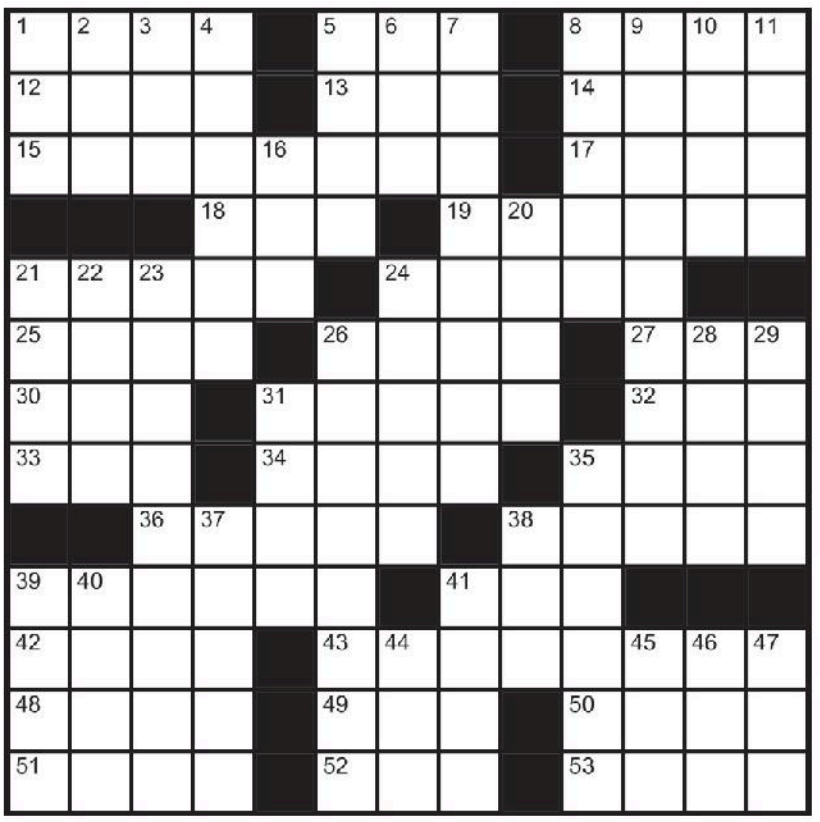
1 Bobbin, stagger or dance ?
5 Policeman
8 Angers or rages
12 Jane Austen novel
13 Triumphant cry
14 MasterCard rival
15 Polite behavior
17 Rectangular pier
18 Oath, promise
19 Vocalist
21 River nymph
24 Gold sovereign?
25 Skin disease
26 Mexican pancake
27 "A", "an" or __ ?
30 Explosive sound
31 Trite, feeble or commonplace
32 Title of respect in our country - "oar" anagram?
33 In the style of (1,2)
34 A very small brook; a rivulet
35 Destroy by fire
36 Like snakeskin
38 Judges
39 Eyeshades or punishments
41 Tax deducted at source, in short
42 ___ Kazan : famous Hollywood director?
43 Omissive
48 __ __ time : never? (2,2)
49 Craze
50 Medley or mixture of sorts
51 Fruit
52 Cook in hot fat
53 The physical unit for measuring power

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

A	B	U		A	B	S				A	P	T
N	U	N		L	A	T	A		B	O	A	R
A	N	I	M	A	T	E	D		U	C	L	Y
			A	M	O	R	O	U	S			
	A	L	M	O	N	E	R	S		M	A	E
G	L	U	M			O	N	E	N	E	S	S
A	L	L	A	T				R	A	N	K	S
P	I	L	L	A	G	E			I	S	E	E
E	N	S		C	O	L	E	S	L	A	W	
			P	O	T	E	N	C	E			
S	A	G	E		O	V	E	R	D	O	N	E
T	U	R	N		N	O	M	E		I	A	M
E	R	E				N	Y	E		L	P	S

DOWN

1 Camcorder button
2 Comedian Philips
3 Australian bird
4 Immature insects
5 Masticate
6 Pan American org.
7 Bodily
8 Former Mrs. Trump
9 Is persuasive (5,4)
10 City in NE Italy famous for its ancient Roman ruins
11 River in Europe
16 Former weight for wool
20 Object of worship
21 Soft lambskin leather
22 System of bidding in Bridge
23 Briefly and casually (2,7)
24 Masculine
26 Dwindles or tapers out (5,3)
28 Damage
29 Long time periods
31 Slope or declivity or hillside in Scotland - "bare" anagram?
35 Confer
37 Confusion or mess
38 Insecticide, in short
39 Page of book
40 High: prefix
41 Orderly
44 Disfigure, deface, or scar
45 ___ Arun : "Parde-ke-piche..." singer ?
46 Louse egg
47 Obtained



SUDOKO

		4				8		
			8		5			
8			7	2	6			9
		2				7		
7	3						1	8
		1				9		
6			3	8	4			7
			9		2			
		8				5		

Answer to previous puzzle

1	2	9	8	7	6	5	3	4
6	4	8	2	5	3	1	9	7
7	5	3	9	4	1	8	2	6
9	8	2	1	3	4	7	6	5
3	1	6	5	9	7	4	8	2
4	7	5	6	8	2	3	1	9
8	3	7	4	6	9	2	5	1
5	9	1	7	2	8	6	4	3
2	6	4	3	1	5	9	7	8

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

JYG OMB HI M LMBR NBDNKIL MD UITT

MD M LMBR YGQDNKIL.

TODAY'S CLUE: G EQUALS U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Somebody has to do something, and it's just incredibly pathetic that it has to be us - Jerry Garcia

Delay in COVID test report

Govt. to impose fine of Rs. 100 to Rs.150 on Pvt. Labs

Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan

State to add another 20,000 oxygenated beds: Dy.CM

Bengaluru, May 10 (SSV)- The State Government has decided to add another 20,000 oxygenated beds following Supreme Court allotting 1200 metric tons of oxygen to Karnataka, said Deputy Chief Minister (Dy. CM) and COVID-19 Ministerial Task Force Chairman Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan. Talking to reporters here, he said the State required 20,000 oxygen beds but on urgent basis 10,000 beds will be prepared as early as possible and this is going to answer the shortage of oxygen beds.

Before the outbreak of Corona pandemic, the State was using only 100 metric tons of oxygen but now it require 950 metric tons. "We have oxygen which is sufficient for the existing oxygen beds. But in the wake of sharp rise in Corona positive patients, there is an urgent need to increase oxygenated beds. Our shortage of oxygen has been met due to intervention by the Apex Court. The oxygen beds will also be kept ready at COVID Care Centres where expert staff will be deployed," he said.

The Minister said the State has a total of 70,000 beds for Corona patients out of which 35,000 are in Government Hospitals and 35,000 in Private Hospitals. Out of 70,000 beds, 50,000 beds have oxygen. In order to address shortage of oxygen beds, it has been decided to shift 30 percent or 40 percent of patients with mild symptoms from Government and Private Hospitals to Step Down Hospitals.

NO SHORTAGE

Dr. Ashwathnarayan said there will be no shortage of Remdesivir injection as the State was allotted 39,000 vials of injection till May 9 and another 70,000 vials are expected. In fact, there may be shortage of injection in next one or two days. The Government of India has allotted an additional 2,60,00 vials to Karnataka which will start coming from Monday. Most probably, around 37,000 vials may be supplied daily. The necessary requirements of all districts will be taken care by the State Government, he added.

FINE FOR DELAY IN TEST REPORT

Dr. Ashwathnarayan said the Government has decided to impose a fine of Rs. 100 to Rs.150 per test in case of delay on the part of Private Laboratories in giving COVID test results within 24 hours.

It is the duty of the Labs to give RT-PCR test results within a day. Till recently COVID patients were coming for testing very late and this was delaying even treatment also. Besides, it was causing casualty but this should not happen in future at any cost.

He said till last year, RT-PCR test was done at only one lab in Government sector when COVID crisis hit the State. However, now they have 91 Laboratories in the Government sector and over 150 in Private sector. While the Government Labs are testing around 10,500 samples daily, Private Labs are conducting 70,000 tests. Out of 100 percent, 93 percent tests were of RT-PCR and the remaining were Rapid Antigen Test (RAT).

The ICMR has given permission for conducting RAT in all Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the State and RAT kits will be supplied to all PHCs to increase the number of detection.

He said all PHCs have been distributed COVID related medicines in sufficient quantity. All steps had been taken to ensure that there will be no shortage of medicines anywhere. In the next two days, all Primary Health Centres will be supplied with sufficient quantity of medicine and other things. The Government has already issued guidelines for treatment of COVID positive patients in Private Hospitals and all doctors and staff must follow it, he added.

Infosys Foundation commits Rs. 200 crore for COVID relief

New Delhi, May 10 (Agencies)- Infosys Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Infosys, will commit an additional Rs. 100 crore to support efforts to fight COVID-19 in India. This comes on top of the Rs. 100 crore that it allocated last year, taking its total commitment to Rs. 200 crore.

"Last year, we helped in establishing full-fledged COVID Hospital in Bengaluru which is now running at full capacity. We will be allocating funds this time to various other cities where Infosys has a presence — Hyderabad, Pune, Nagpur, Mangalore, Trivandrum and Delhi. We are supporting hospitals by giving ventilators, oxygen concentrators, sanitisers, PPE kits, N95 masks," Sudha Murty, Chairperson, Infosys Foundation, told reporters.

Sudha Murty

"We are also helping construction workers with rice and food kits, apart from providing maintenance money to auto drivers. We are also spending money on vaccination awareness programmes because there are many people who are not taking vaccines. We are also helping animal care centres," she added.

Half of the Rs. 100-crore commitment last March was earmarked for the PM CARES fund. This time round, the entire commitment will be used by the Foundation to fund various initiatives at the grassroots level. "There is a lot of work that we are doing at the grassroot level and we need funds for all this. We have distributed thousands of ration kits to vulnerable sections," she said.

When is third wave of COVID-19 likely to hit India?

Allowing a third wave by lowering our guard is fraught with grave consequences, warn experts

New Delhi, May 10 (UNI&Agencies)- As India battles the second wave of the COVID-19, some experts have already raised the possibility of a third wave of the pandemic. Several countries have already witnessed the fourth wave of COVID. But as India struggles to contain the deadly second wave, when is the inevitable third wave projected to hit the country?

There has been a sharp surge in infections over the past couple of months, making the second wave much worse than the first one that began in early 2020 and peaked in the last quarter of that year before the tally hit a trough in the first quarter of 2021.

Dr. Giridhar Babu

"The third wave will be mostly in the winter, sometime in the end of November or early December (this year). Ensuring that all the vulnerable are vaccinated before the festive season of Diwali is important to save as many lives," said Dr. Giridhar Babu, Epidemiologist and Professor at the Indian Institute of Public Health in Bengaluru. "The next wave will affect mostly younger age groups," he warned.

"Depends on several factors in the period from now till December — the proportion of vaccinated people, prevention of super spreader events and all types of crowds, and how early we can detect newer variants and limit them to local areas," said Dr. Babu.

Several experts believe that a casual approach that followed the trough of the first wave could be a possible reason for the pandemic raising its head again, though others are also putting the blame on the new mutants and variants of the virus being more virulent.

PRINCIPAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISER SPEAKS

K. Vijay Raghavan

K. Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser, said last week that the third wave was inevitable and it was necessary to be prepared for new waves, but clarified two days later that the "insidious asymptomatic transmission" can be stopped if prescribed guidelines about precautions, surveillance, containment, treatment and testing are followed.

"If we take strong measures, the third wave may not happen in all places or indeed anywhere at all. It depends on how effectively guidance is implemented at the local level in the States, districts and cities everywhere," he said.

Experts clarified that India is nowhere near achieving herd immunity and as such people should continue to wear masks and maintain social distancing and hand hygiene to stay away from getting infected by the virus.

EXERCISE CAUTION

Cautioning the people and the scientific community against allowing "complacency to set in," they warned that a third wave would precipitate a far more dangerous situation than the challenge the country had faced so far.

The prevalence of COVID cases had come down in November not because of herd immunity, but because of other reasons, including wearing of masks and people remaining outdoors during the winter. The fact that the virus remained suspended in the air in closed areas and it lost its potency in open areas helped a great deal in controlling the spread during the winter, the experts said.

MATHEMATICAL STUDY

Meanwhile, IT Kanpur scientists conducted a mathematical study in different parts of the country on the pandemic situation and predicted that after a peak in cases in the first week of May, the amount of positive cases will begin to decrease. They also predicted that India may face the third wave of COVID-19 infections in October.

The IIT Kanpur scientists used the mathematical model formula to conduct the study and claim that the COVID-19 situation in Maharashtra has already peaked and will begin to see a decline in cases while Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Gujarat and West Bengal are currently at peak and will start receding soon.

District Police ropes in celebrity to counsel infected cops

'Golden Star' Ganesh appeals all Policemen to get vaccinated on priority

Mysuru SP C.B. Ryshyanth (left) and Dr. Nanda from Narayana Hrudayalaya during an online session with film actor Ganesh yesterday. Picture right shows City Cops on lockdown duty enquiring the riders about their movement on Bengaluru-Nilgiri Road this morning.

Mysuru, May 10 (Akshay& BCT)- When everyone in the country has been asked to remain indoors during lockdown and is receiving all the knowledge in the world on how to deal with social isolation, it's mostly the Policemen that one sees on the roads, maintaining law and order and also enforcing rules.

In the process, they get infected with the virus and in Mysuru, there are over 50 Policemen who have contracted the disease and there are over 25 family members who are also infected. The Mysuru District Police regularly organises virtual stress management programmes and counselling sessions to beat the deadly virus.

Online sessions through Zoom app are also held by Superintendent of Police (SP) C.B. Ryshyanth regarding enforcement of law on a day-to-day basis. The counselling session that was held yesterday was attended by 'Golden Star' Ganesh, who volunteered to be a part to boost the morale of the Policemen and their families who are under treatment.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Additional SP R. Shivakumar said that the counselling sessions are held every week and this time they had a celebrity (Ganesh) who spoke in detail to the infected Policemen and their families through the virtual medium.

Along with Ganesh, Dr. Nanda from Narayana Hrudayalaya spoke to the Policemen and advised them on medication and cleared the doubts on vaccines, combating comorbidities like diabetes, high blood pressure, etc.

The Policemen were asked to monitor their health constantly and alert senior officers in case there is any difference in the health. Prescriptions were provided and also the existing medical routine of the patients were examined. Actor Ganesh, thanking the Policemen for their selfless work in controlling the contagion, said that all Policemen must get vaccinated on priority.

"All those Policemen who are above 18 must get inoculated on priority. Please don't wait for any particular vaccine brand to arrive. Both the brands — Covishield and Covaxin — are safe," he appealed.

Shivakumar said that Ganesh himself volunteered to counsel Policemen and SP Ryshyanth agreed as it will be a morale-booster for the staff and family members.

Apart from counselling from celebrities, the District Police is also organising video-conferencing sessions for law enforcement. All Circle Inspectors, Dy.SPs and Sub-Inspectors under the District Police jurisdictions mandatorily attend the call that is organised by District Armed Reserve (DAR) Dy.SP Satish and Additional SP Shivakumar.

During the call, SP discusses all Government orders passed from time to time to control the pandemic. The senior staffs are informed two hours before the call and generally, law enforcement is discussed like penalties for not wearing a mask and the number of needlessly moving vehicles seized where Policemen are expected to produce statistics of each Police Station.

Nodal Officers appointed for oxygen supplies

Mysuru, May 10- Under the Disaster Management Act 2005, Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri, who is also the District Magistrate, has appointed B. Manjunath, Deputy Director of Libraries at Mysuru, as the Nodal Officer for oxygen supplies in the district with immediate effect.

Manjunath has been entrusted with the task of ascertaining the availability of sufficient quantity of oxygen at supply agencies in the city and district, submission of day-to-day updates to the Government on oxygen requisitions/ indent sent by Government and Private Hospitals to oxygen suppliers and also getting confirmation of oxygen supplies made as per requisition.

He will also be monitoring the functioning of Nodal Officers already appointed at oxygen supply agencies, sending regular updates to the District Administration on actual oxygen supplies and to direct/correspond with agencies on issues concerning oxygen supplies and send reports on a daily basis with statistics pertaining to demand and supply, consumption and shortfall of oxygen in the district, among others, according to a press release from the Deputy Commissioner.

The following are the other Nodal Officers' team appointed the District Administration to check oxygen stocks in private supply agencies of the district:

K.R. Rakshith - Tashildar, Mysuru Taluk; Dr. Suresh - Assistant Director, Animal Husbandry Department; Mahesh Kumar - Assistant Director, Sericulture Department; Anil - Assistant Engineer, PWD; Mahendra - Revenue Inspector, Mysuru Taluk; Vinod and Nagesh - Village Accountants at Mysuru Taluk Office.

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